



Joint Commission on Health Care

February 19, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.

Senate Committee Room 1, 5th Floor- Pocahontas Building

Members Present

Delegate T. Scott Garrett

Delegate Riley E. Ingram

Delegate Kaye Kory

Delegate Christopher P. Stolle

Senator George L. Barker

Senator Charles W. Carrico, Sr.

Senator Rosalyn R. Dance

Senator Siobhan S. Dunnavant

Senator John S. Edwards

Senator L. Louise Lucas

Senator Glen H. Sturtevant, Jr.

Senator David R. Suetterlein

Members Absent

Delegate David L. Bulova

Delegate Benjamin Cline

Delegate Patrick A. Hope

Delegate Christopher Peace

Delegate Roslyn C. Tyler

Staff Present

Michele Chesser

Agnes Dymora

Paula Margolis

Andrew Mitchell

Stephen Weiss

CALL TO ORDER

Senator Carrico called the meeting to order.

DISCUSSIONS

Senator Carrico discussed the FOIA electronic meeting policy and a motion and second was made which resulted in a unanimous adoption of said policy. The FOIA policy reads as follows:

1. Individual JCHC members may participate in meetings of JCHC by electronic means as permitted by Virginia Code § 2.2-3708.1. This policy shall apply to the entire membership and without regard to the identity of the member requesting remote participation or the matters that will be considered or voted on at the meeting. Whenever an individual member wishes to participate from a remote location, the law requires a quorum of the JCHC to be physically assembled at the primary or central meeting location, and there must be arrangements for the voice of the remote participant to be heard by all persons at the primary or central meeting location. When such individual participation is due to an emergency or personal matter, such participation is limited by law to two meetings or 25% of the meetings of the public body per member each calendar year, whichever is fewer.

2. Individual participation from a remote location shall be approved unless such participation would violate this policy or the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. If a member's participation from a remote location is challenged, then the JCHC shall vote whether to allow such participation. If the JCHC votes to disapprove of the member's participation because such participation would violate this policy, such disapproval shall be recorded in the minutes with specificity.

3. To fulfill the requirement of at least once annually holding a meeting where no members will participate by electronic meetings, the 'Work Plan Proposal Meeting' (usually occurring in May of each year) will be a non-electronic meeting.

Senator Carrico then discussed adopting a member-based process for determining which studies will be conducted by JCHC staff in an upcoming year. Rather than having the JCHC study a large mixture of topics, many of which resulting from bills tabled or carried over during the previous session that are then referred to the JCHC for further analysis, we can utilize a model of prioritization like the one used by the Crime Commission.

Senator Carrico then asked Kristen Howard, Director of the Crime Commission, to explain their process. She indicated that the policy has been in effect for over 10 years for much the same reason as why the JCHC is considering it now. She explained that the Crime Commission has nine legislative members, three Gubernatorial appointees and the Attorney General or his designee. They created an executive subcommittee of four to six legislative members which includes members from both the House and Senate, from both political parties, and representative of the full Commission. If a study resolution is formally passed by the General Assembly, then the Commission conducts the study based on the mandate. For all other study requests, staff compile information about the issue (including a brief summary, different options in terms of study depth, and an estimate of time and other resources needed) and provides the information to the executive subcommittee. The executive subcommittee then meets one to 1.5 weeks later, during the reconvened session, to review and rank the studies. During the meeting, Ms. Howard can receive guidance for a study regarding research components of the study, what questions should be answered, and overall, how best to deliver what is needed for members to make decisions if/when the bill comes up again during the following session. She also may learn, from the subcommittee members, information that they know as legislators about the history of a particular bill/study request that can be useful. Ms. Howard then informs the remaining Crime Commission members of the executive committee's conclusions.

After some discussion, Senator Barker recommended a hybrid model which includes an executive subcommittee of 4-6 members (including the Chair and Vice Chair, or their designee) and a study ranking sheet provided to all JCHC members, along with each bill summary/letter of request, to fill out and return prior to the executive subcommittee meeting so the subcommittee members may consider the preferences of the other JCHC members.

Further conversation occurred, resulting in the following suggested timetable for the hybrid model:

1. After session, staff will determine all study requests and formal study resolutions sent to the JCHC.
 - 1a. Studies coming from study resolutions approved by the General Assembly will be conducted and will not be part of the ranking process.
2. Staff will compile a document that includes the topic of each study request along with the letter of request or the summary of the bill on which the study is based. Staff will send this document along with a ranking sheet to all JCHC members. Each member will complete the ranking sheet and return to the Director no later than 1.5 weeks prior to the executive committee meeting (The date of this meeting will be provided.).
3. Staff will develop further information on each study and will send the results, along with the ranking sheets from all members, to the executive subcommittee members one to 1.5 weeks prior to their meeting which will occur during the reconvened session.
4. The subcommittee members will discuss the studies, JCHC member rankings, and additional information on each study; they will then prioritize the studies, as well as provide guidance to staff on the depth/breadth of each study and the questions that they would like to have answered.
5. The list of prioritized studies will then be sent to all JCHC members prior to the work plan meeting (two weeks in advance, if at all possible).

Senator Carrico moved to adopt the new study approval process, which was seconded, and the vote in favor of adoption was unanimous. Senator Lucas then strongly suggested that Senator Barker be one of the members on the executive subcommittee. Her request was seconded by Senator Dance, and Senator Barker indicated that he did not live too far away (implying his willingness to serve).

ADJOURMENT

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting has not been scheduled yet.

Electronic Meeting:	No
Prepared by:	Agnes Dymora